

By Senator Alexander

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1 Senate Joint Resolution

2 A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4
3 of Article IV of the State Constitution, relating to
4 the duties of the Chief Financial Officer.

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6 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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8 That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article IV of
9 the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to
10 the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next
11 general election or at an earlier special election specifically
12 authorized by law for that purpose:

13 ARTICLE IV

14 EXECUTIVE

15 SECTION 4. Cabinet.—

16 (a) There shall be a cabinet composed of an attorney
17 general, a chief financial officer, and a commissioner of
18 agriculture. In addition to the powers and duties specified
19 herein, they shall exercise such powers and perform such duties
20 as may be prescribed by law. In the event of a tie vote of the
21 governor and cabinet, the side on which the governor voted shall
22 be deemed to prevail.

23 (b) The attorney general shall be the chief state legal
24 officer. There is created in the office of the attorney general
25 the position of statewide prosecutor. The statewide prosecutor
26 shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the state attorneys to
27 prosecute violations of criminal laws occurring or having
28 occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related
29 transaction, or when any such offense is affecting or has

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30 affected two or more judicial circuits as provided by general
31 law. The statewide prosecutor shall be appointed by the attorney
32 general from not less than three persons nominated by the
33 judicial nominating commission for the supreme court, or as
34 otherwise provided by general law.

35 (c) The chief financial officer shall serve as the chief
36 fiscal officer of the state, and shall settle and approve
37 accounts against the state, and shall keep all state funds and
38 securities. It is a paramount duty of the state to collect,
39 maintain, and make available accurate, verifiable, and auditable
40 state and local government financial information. Accordingly,
41 the chief financial officer shall:

42 (1) Establish and conduct a uniform accounting of funds of
43 all state agencies, state universities, state and community
44 colleges, school districts, water management districts, other
45 local governments, and all statutorily authorized public
46 entities; and

47 (2) Supervise matters pertaining to the accounting of
48 funds, except as otherwise provided by law. The legislature may
49 provide by general law for enforcement mechanisms, including
50 financial or budgetary restrictions, which ensure compliance
51 with accounting procedures and financial requirements.

52 (d) The commissioner of agriculture shall have supervision
53 of matters pertaining to agriculture except as otherwise
54 provided by law.

55 (e) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, and
56 the attorney general shall constitute the state board of
57 administration, which shall succeed to all the power, control,
58 and authority of the state board of administration established

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59 pursuant to Article IX, Section 16 of the Constitution of 1885,
60 and which shall continue as a body at least for the life of
61 Article XII, Section 9(c).

62 (f) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the
63 attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall
64 constitute the trustees of the internal improvement trust fund
65 and the land acquisition trust fund as provided by law.

66 (g) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the
67 attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall
68 constitute the agency head of the Department of Law Enforcement.

69 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
70 placed on the ballot:

71 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

72 ARTICLE IV, SECTION 4

73 DUTIES OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.—Proposing an
74 amendment to the State Constitution to require the Chief
75 Financial Officer to establish and conduct a uniform accounting
76 of funds of all public entities and supervise such accounting,
77 and to authorize the Legislature to provide enforcement
78 mechanisms by law which ensure compliance with accounting
79 procedures and financial requirements.